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PATENT  
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**MAR 28 2003**

**Technology Center 2600**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )

Kenji MORITA et al. )

Application No.: 09/818,632 )

Filed: March 28, 2001 )

For: APPARATUS FOR AND METHOD OF )  
PROCESSING IMAGE )

Group Art Unit: 2621

Examiner: To be assigned

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. Applicants respectfully submit that the previous Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on March 20, 2002 in the instant application incorrectly noted that the references included in that IDS were cited in a corresponding European Patent Application. A European Search Report dated February 4, 2002 was included with that IDS filing. Applicants respectfully submit that it was subsequently discovered that the February 4, 2002 European Search Report actually did not issue in a foreign application corresponding to the instant application.

However, Applicants have now received the proper European Search Report dated March 19, 2003 that issued in a European Patent Application that corresponds to the instant application. Accordingly, each item of information contained in this current IDS, or at least a document corresponding thereto, was cited in that European Search Report issued by the European Patent

Office on March 19, 2003 in a corresponding foreign application. A copy of the March 19, 2003 European Search Report is enclosed for the Examiner's consideration.

To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application, and no fees are believed to be necessary. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO Form 1449. This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitutes "Prior Art." If it should be determined that the listed documents do not constitute "Prior Art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application. If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

**MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP**

Dated: March 27, 2003

By:



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